

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC KVP Mechanized Division Potsdam

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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19 August 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. In late June 1955, various KVP administration offices including the district registration office were in the building at 1-16 Heinrich Mann Allee, Potsdam.¹
2. On 23 June, two companies of recruits wearing light blue service color left the Ruinenberg Kaserne and went to the Bornstedter Feld for practices. Only one platoon of each company was armed with rifles. Twelve trucks, each with 18 soldiers, left the installation. On 25 June, 12 platoons drilled in the yard on Schlegel Allee. Approximately 80 trucks were parked in another yard. Towards evening, nine trucks each with 18 KVP soldiers wearing light blue service color entered the installation.²
3. At night on 28 June, 3 SU-76 guns, 4 SU-100 guns, 18 armored personnel carriers each with eight soldiers, and 20 to 24 trucks each with 18 soldiers wearing light blue service color were seen in Eiche. The vehicles came from the direction of the Ruinenberg Kaserne.²
4. On 2 July, 3 or 4 platoons of recruits practiced in a yard of the installation. Two companies practiced in another yard. Eighty to 100 soldiers equipped with prismatic compasses left the installation in groups in the direction of Bornstedt and Bornim. Between 2030 and 2400 on 5 July, intensive rifle and machine gun firing was heard from the Bornim firing ranges.²
5. On 7 July, two companies wearing light blue service color conducted a combat practice involving heavy machine guns at the Bornstedter Feld. Each company had two SU-100 guns. Some soldiers received training on three SU-100 guns in the yard of the installation and three platoons of recruits practiced in the vicinity. On 9 July, 12 trucks each with 18 KVP soldiers left the installation, presumably for the Elsgrund firing range.²
6. From 23 June to 7 July, up to five platoons wearing red-bordered black ensaulets were repeatedly observed engaged in drilling, subcaliber target practice and training on two 37-mm AA guns in the Garde du Corps Kaserne. The installation was occupied by an estimated 150 to 180 men, apparently recruits. Part of the personnel stationed in the kaserne was said to be still absent from the installation.⁶³

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7. On 8 July, 8 trucks and 1 armored personnel carrier were seen moving from the General Wever Kaserne to the firing ranges on Marquardter Chaussee; some time later, they were followed by eight trucks each towing a 57-mm. AT gun.
8. On 5 July, it was noted that the former officer-candidate school was located at 107 Heinrich Mann Allee.
9. A KVP officer stated that the Ruinenberg Kaserne was occupied by approximately 1,200 soldiers on 30 June. The bulk of the AAA unit stationed in the Garde du Corps Kaserne was said to be still in Altengrabow.^{2 3}
10. [redacted] approximately 2,000 KVP soldiers with 30 to 50 AT guns and approximately 50 to 60 trucks were detrained from three troop trains at the Gross Wudicke railroad station during the night of 21/22 June. The Ferchels-Mehlitz training area had been totally restricted on 21 June. Local residents stated that two troop trains with approximately 1,000 KVP soldiers and 25 to 30 tanks arrived at the Schoenhausener Damm Railroad station during the night of 23/24 June.⁴
11. On 22 June, 16 AT guns (presumably 10x45-mm AT guns and 6x57-mm AT guns) and 26 trucks each with 15 to 20 KVP soldiers were seen between Scharlibbe and Mehlitz. The vehicles moved in a northerly direction. On 24 June, 6 to 8 tanks were seen southwest of Neuwartensleben. Twenty-five tents and approximately 350 KVP soldiers and 15 trucks were seen 300 meters west of the Steckelsdorf-Schollens road near the Trittsee (lake). Prior to 5 July, firing of heavy weapons was heard daily.
12. On 4 July, a troop train with 20 guns, presumably 37-mm AA guns, 20 trucks and KVP soldiers was unloaded at the Gross Wudicke railroad station. The motor-vehicle numbers were covered. The unit left in the direction of Ferchels-Mehlitz.⁵
13. In early June, it was learned, that a large summer camp and a firing range for the KVP were under construction in the Kliest area.
14. From 23 June to 4 July, there was intensive training activity in the Premnitz installation and at the Premnitz-Moegelin post training area. Up to 550 KVP soldiers sometimes participated in individual and group training and in athletics and labor service. No heavy weapons were seen. Sentries and personnel wore red-bordered black epaulets.
15. During the night of 13/14 June, major elements of the units stationed in the Orenienburg concentration camp left the installation. On 15 July, the installation appeared to be occupied to capacity again.⁵
16. From 17 to 24 June, 22 recruits arrived at the Orenienburg III concentration camp.⁶
1. [redacted] Comment. The installation probably is the former officer-candidate school which has repeatedly been reported to be designated for KVP offices. [redacted] It has not been possible to identify the offices located there. [redacted] the Statistical Department of the KVP which has been unknown so far was said to be located there.
2. [redacted] Comment. While the recruits of the 2d Mecz Regt in the Ruinenberg Kaserne in Potsdam are trained in special units at squad and platoon level,

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the older personnel are usually trained at company level. It is possible that elements of the latter are at the training grounds east of Kliestz for the time being.

3. [REDACTED] Comment. A previous report has already stated that elements of the AAA Regt, presumably older personnel, were transferred to Altengrabow. [REDACTED] It is assumed that these elements were transferred from Altengrabow to the Kliestz training grounds in the meantime. 25X1
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4. [REDACTED] Comment. The use of the training area up to now indicates that units of the Mechanized Division Potsdam were detrained. The strengths, however, are probably very exaggerated. 25X1
5. [REDACTED] Comment. Compare with paragraph 10 of this report.
6. [REDACTED] Comment. Oranienburg III is the designation for the medium-tank regiment stationed there. 25X1

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